



# קלעדנייעס KlezNews

2008 אױגוסט 22סטן דעם 22nd August, 2008

## A Night to Remember

*The Staff Concert! Avia's Award! The Cabaret!*

*By Joyce Romoff*

Mazal tov! I made it to the cabaret!

All week, the concerts have been desserts more substantial than the cake that's been served. Tuesday's Staff Concert Part I amazed me and prepared me for what was to come. East-Meets-West totally "blew me away" (is there a recording? DVD? Anything? Help! I wasn't prepared), and Staff Concert II taught me that, in addition to musicality, the staff also had a sense of humor. Susan Watts taught anatomy to her mother, Elaine, and Joanne Borts made off with the scarf. The Yiddish Princess had us almost to our feet cheering. Maybe Israel will be at peace one day; their performance will help. But, to date, I'd failed to make it to the cabaret.

Importantly, at the concert, Avia Moore received an award for service to KlezKanada. And what better award for a woman than a chocolate cake! Seriously, Avia has long been associated with



KlezKanada as student, participant, on the staff and finally Administrative Director. She is leaving KlezKanada, at least for a year, to attend graduate school in Great Britain. It was a very emotional moment

*continued on page 2*



Jeff Warschauer, Michael Alpert, Avia Moore, Sandy and Hy Goldman



Pete Sokolow and Danny Rubenstein

Photos: David Kahn

Joanne Borts and Steve Weintraub

# KLEZMER PODCAST

By Keith Wolzinger

Klezmer Podcast is an exciting internet radio talk show hosted by Keith Wolzinger. The show is all about Klezmer and other Jewish music as seen from the musician's perspective. The focus is on talking with bands that are well-known as well as those that most people are not familiar with. The Podcast is supplemented with reviews of CDs that are new or soon-to-be released, posted on the companion Klezmer Podcast Blog.

Klezmer Podcast started as Klez-Kanada Podcast in 2006 as an extension of my writing for the KlezKanada Newsletter. I thought it would be fun to interview some of the Klez-Kanada faculty and staff so that the participants could get to know a little bit more about them, more in-depth than perhaps they would learn from the workshops and performances.

Realizing that there was much more music going on throughout the year, I started Klezmer Podcast in January, 2007 and have since merged KlezKanada Podcast into the show I have today.

You will see me around camp all week talking to as

many musicians as I can. The patio of the Retreat Centre is a favorite spot to hang out and do interviews. I often get an "audience" to watch and join in on the fun.



If you are a faculty or staff member, belong to a band, have a new or upcoming album, find me and let's talk!

You can find Klezmer Podcast at: [www.klezmerpodcast.com](http://www.klezmerpodcast.com), on iTunes, and on Podango. I hope you will listen and join this growing community.

Tuesday was my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, so if you see me around, please say hello!

## A Night to Remember

*Continued from page 1*

when her achievements were lauded and she received her cake-and, sensible person that she is, promptly ate portions of it on stage. Even I, who is a Klez neophyte, joined in the tears and laughter. I'm certain Avia will be sorely missed and I'm certain the KlezKanada staff and participants hope her path takes her back

Regrettably, I didn't make it very far into the cabaret and, more regrettably, didn't take names. First act I saw Jerry Alperstein from New York getting more notes out of the Shofar than I thought possible. Did you know the shevariim is supposed to sigh? Or was that the teruah? Sorry, I was so busy concentrating on the clarity and variety of the notes, I forgot the calls they represented. Remember, by now it was after 12:00 AM and way past my normal bed time. Then there was the longest tikiah

g'dolah in captivity. Clearly, I have a lot of Elul practicing to do.

It was also my pleasure to hear a family whose 10 year old debuted with them and played magnificently. There also were two young women who, rumor has it, met for the first time at Klez-Kanada and, in short order, were "fiddling" together in close harmony and had us stomping our feet in excitement. After that much excitement, I had to leave but I learned there were so many more worthy acts that I missed.

Oh, I wish I could have remembered names! I will remember the experiences. Next year, I'll "train" to stay up later. I don't want to miss a thing.



Zev Feldman leading dance class. Photo: Truda Bloom

# THE INTERVIEW: JOANNE BORTS

Joanne Borts. Photo: Ari Davidow



By Mira Netsky, Michelle Wolzinger and Sabu Wex

So how did the Loyf Tsnoyf go this morning?

It was great! We had a great time! We had a very small, but sincere, turnout. We had about 2 dozen people. 22, 23, 24 people who came out. We had a flautist and Hankus played his accordian to start the event. And Uncle Marvin dropped his hat to signal the beginning of the race. It was amazing! When I first woke up I could see the sun rising over the mountains and it was purple and orange and gorgeous. And it looked like a photograph! There was a mist over the water that someone told me that it means the heat is leaving the water.

So why do you have the race so early? Because I think there's a really cool community of people that wakes up to

run and people don't run late at night it's just not part the phenomenon. And, quite frankly, we get the whole camp to ourselves. You know, we're not running around through people. And at night we wouldn't be running through Klezmorim with their instruments.

Is it hard to run with your hair? Does it, like, flop a lot?

No, I actually always tie my hair back. That's why I always have a shmata in my hair. It's just that it's always in my face and it's really big and it's hot under here!

Where do you get all your shmatas? Oh, let's see...I get my shmatas in Poland and in London and in Montreal. I like to but the scarves when I travel.

You know you could buy them at Urban Outfitters...

But it's not as much fun to buy them at

Urban Outfitters! It's fun to say, "Oh, I got this scarf in Poland...and I got this one in London...and I got this one in wherever." It becomes a...souvenir!

Are you, like, a scarf collector?

I think I may very well BE!

Do you collect anything else?

I collect shrunken heads of young pre-teens!

Um...we're teenagers.

Oh, where does the time go?! Do I collect anything else...dust!

Has anyone ever told you that you're like Ms Frizzle from "The Magic School Bus"? Because you totally remind us of her!

No...is it a compliment or else I'm going to cry!

She's lovely!

She's a very crazy person!

Lovely is Mira's favourite word!

Crazy in a good way?

They go on field trips through, like, the human body in a magic school bus that flies! So have you seen the "Magic School Bus"? No...so when I see this thing and when I see what Ms Frizzle looks like and acts like, if I don't like it I'm gonna email each one of you crying and I'll make it into an emoticon! Going like this \*makes indescribable crying noise\*

Do you like emoticons or do you feel they're "over-rated"?

You know what? I'm a big fan of emoticons.

Is it nerd-shaf if you like emoticons?

I use them...I love them!

\*Joanna gets a bit distractd...\*"AARON SHWEBEL! FRONT AND CENTRE!"\*

So, your wedding! Do you have a dress yet?

Continued on page 4

I do! It's September 21 and it's exactly one month away! OhmyG-d! And I have a dress. It's really pretty. It's got really lovely long sleeves, like theatrical kind of sleeves, and it fits really well. And I'm really excited about it!

*How are you able to plan for Klezkanada and your wedding? That's a lot of pressure!*

That's an excellent question! I'm freaking out a little bit...I know we're having Milkhiks because I only eat fish and dairy. And you know why it's Milkhiks? Because it's MY wedding! And I'm the one hiring the caterer! Isn't that great?! That's the best part of your wedding! At the end of the day everyone says, "It's the bride's wedding." Well good! It's my wedding!

*You should wear purple Crocs under your wedding dress!*

That would probably be really comfortable!

*I really like your watch!*

Oh, thanks! The Ritz watch! You know why it's the Ritz watch? Because I'm marrying Michael Ritz!

by Sruli and Lisa

*"Fun di oysyes koyakh shepn"*

"From the letters of the Aleph Beys we draw strength"

There is a new orchard growing in KlezKanada—not apples or oranges or nuts (though some of the kids themselves are nuts) but *Aleph Beys Beymer*—Alphabet Trees.

Yes, while you have been whiling away the hours eating green meatloaf, your children have been learning the letters of the Aleph Beys, the sounds they make, and how to write their names and the names of their parents and grandparents for a *rikhtiger Yikhus Boym*—a Family Tree.

Ok, Noah, who turned 9 yesterday made a popsicle tree, but the many flavors made a tasty addition to our

*Are you gonna change your name?*

I don't know...it's a very big thing. You know you get to a place where your name is your identity. And to suddenly change your name...I don't have any political differences with changing my name...but it's definitely not a little question. So I haven't made the decision yet.

*Where do your parents live?*

In Florida

*Are there alligators there?*

There are alligators. Sometimes they have alligators crawling up in their backyard.

*Don't they get eaten and stuff?!*

No, they haven't got eaten yet

*Are they active old people?*

They are active old people...they're very, very busy! My mother volunteers at the hospital with the babies.

*Do you prefer peaches or nectarines?*

Nectarines...because I HATE THE FUZZ! It's my teeth freakout! I can't eat the fuzz! But sometimes I really like plums

*You seem to be very purple this year*  
I'm a big plum kind of guy! I'm in my

orchard.

*A hartsikn dank* to Esther Gottesman whose virtuosic knowledge of Yiddish and tireless thumbing through the pages of Weinreich to find the most obscure flavors and names of bugs make her our favorite addition to the children's program. She will also help narrate our big Saturday night performance.

So please stop by the retreat center *oyf Shabes* to visit our *kleyne gortn* and feel free to *khap* any child and test him or her on the *oysyes*.

Also, come visit us any time—learn a *nign* with us, sing

purple faze. Yesterday I was head-to-toe purple.

*Do you like moose?*

Do I what?

*Like the antler...*

Why? Why? I was reading your article yesterday. Like chocolate moose?

*Moose has to be in all our interviews. Do you use mousse in your hair to control the frizz? Or is it naturally controlled?*

No, I have leave in conditioner. I use mop.

*So you don't like moose? Like antler moose?*

I do!

*Do moose ever come in your parents backyard?*

No...but they should! Then they would eat the alligator. Or maybe the alligator would eat the moose...I don't know.

*Thank you so much!*

No problem! See you in class!

\*Be sure to check out Joanne's article about the Loyf Tznoyf in the newsletter!

and dance with us at the flagpole every day before lunch, hang out with us by the lake—you'll hear great Jewish folktales—or swim with us in the pool. Besides, we get great snack!

Thanks also to Lisa, Megan and Roxanne, our fabulous "animators."

Looking forward to performing for you Saturday night—prepare to *shep nakhes!*



# ART AT KLEZKANADA: LAW OF MOSAICS

By Reuben J. Cohen

Once again this year, Emily Socolov is coordinating a wonderful visual arts program at KlezKanada. I sat in on her class "Law of Mosaics". She describes this class as "connecting little bits of things". She loves to do arts because so much focus is put on music and theatre at KlezKanada, but the visual arts here have never really been innovated. She wants to innovate them in a Jewish vein. I also spoke to one of her assistant teachers, Robin Young. Robin was working on a "random" stained glass piece that looked like a sailboat when I spoke to her. She says that she doesn't



Emily Socolov and Robin Young. Photo: Reuben J. Cohen

play an instrument or sing, so she needs to find another way to express herself. She does this through art. Student Bob Smolkin is there for the same reason. Arts and crafts are a passion of his and a large part of his life. When I spoke to him, he was making beautiful jewelry for his wife. He loves



Photo: Reuben J. Cohen

Emily's classes, and they are a major reason why he keeps coming back here to KlezKanada. He wants to express himself, and people seem to enjoy his work. Works created by the art students are available for purchase at KlezKanada's concerts.

## טשערנעוויץ +100

אין דעם "אוקראַינישן נאַציאָנאַל-הויז" אין טשערנעוויץ, ברו-קעווינע, מיט הונדערט יאָר צוריק, דעם 30סטן אויגוסט 1908, איז פֿאַרגעקומען די עפֿענונג פֿון דער היסטאָרישער טשערנעוויצער שפראַך-קאָנפֿערענץ - דער אָנהייב פֿון דער ייִדישער קולטור-באַוועגונג! (פֿאַטא: איציק גאַטעסמאַן, מײ, 2008)

In the National Ukrainian House in Chernovitz, Bukovina, Ukraine, the opening of the historic Chernovitz Language Conference took place 100 years ago, August 30, 2008 - the beginning of the Yiddish cultural movement!



Photo: conference

# What Is There Left To Say?

By Joyce Romoff

Savrei Chavurei:

Thursday, I “made it over the hump”. Since I felt really sleep deprived and so full of new experiences, last night, I channeled my “inner brat”. Unfortunately, that state is not very attractive since I am a woman “of a certain age.” But this morning, Shabbat is before us and, almost for the first time, I realized what a good plan is Shabbat.

Can you tell my family is not “shomer Shabbas”? We do our best. We keep kosher (at least in the home), we light Shabbat candles, we’re working on observing (celebrating?) Havdalah, we study Torah, we attend *shul* more than on the High Holidays (yes, I’m protesting too much—we could do better) but we’ve never really appreciated Shabbat. Actually, our Shabbat is more on Sunday than Saturday. Sad.

I did so much yet missed so much. Maybe next year? But I’m so look-

ing forward to using Shabbat to “process” and think and, yes, offer thanks. Tomorrow is Shabbat Ekev. Moses continues his peroration to the Israelites to teach them how to live in the promised land. In this portion, (about which I learned from Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks; [www.chiefrabbi.org](http://www.chiefrabbi.org)), Moses warns us not about hard times, but how to maintain our practices in prosperity.

Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down,...then your heart will become proud and you will forget (Ha Shem), who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Devarim 8:13-14

Hopefully, we in US and Canada, who seem to me to be at the top of the heap, will remember these words.



Photo: Truda Bloom

Maybe doing a more perfect Shabbat observance is a good way to start. Shabbat Shalom.



Photo: Truda Bloom

## Daily Acts of Loving

By Elaine Cooper

Walking and sharing, eating and sharing sitting on the patio or at the cabaret, and sharing with new acquaintances or those we know from last year or the year before ... folks at KlezKanada do a lot of talking, and sharing of confidences. Reflecting on this, I realized how easy it is to “gossip” about what we have heard from a “source” and innocently say to one of our buddies....”you’ll never guess what I found out”, and the rumour mill begins. For some of us (me included) it can give a rush of power.

I am reminded about a post-it note that one of my daughters has on her telephone: no lochen horah is spoken here. Her conversations may be limited about what she will talk about... but you know that no matter what you say to her..she never passes on personal information or gossips about others. Many years ago when I was training for a marathon we had a mantra...what was said on the path is left on the path. Jewish geography is wonderful, we are the cosummate networkers...there is less than three degrees of separation between many of us.

As we approach Shabbat and reflect upon the past week and think about next week maybe all of us can chose not to pass on a juicy piece of news about another which may be crtical or positive. The information is not always ours to tell.

# זר פארטער יאָלעכער לאַזקאַנאַדער אויפֿצונויט

by Joanne Borts. Special to KlezNayes

The 2008 KlezKanada Loyf Tsunoyf was small in number, but hugely successful! This morning (at 6:30am... wow!!) a couple of dozen Klezmorim, supporters and athletes gathered at the Retreat Center for our annual pre-race refreshments, still wiping the sleep from our eyes. But as the sun rose purple over the mountains and the mist floated over the lake, we stretched and kvetched and planned our journey around the quiet, calm, dew-covered camp: Past the lake, behind the dining hall, past the gym and the museum, almost to the front gate, turning left at the warehouse... past the farm, Nossim, Chevarim, by the swings, over the bridge to Bonim, Beersheva and Yarkon (but skipping past the Pioneer tents...), back through Kinneret and over the footbridge to the Retreat Center...

And then AGAIN to make it 5 Kilometers...

For many it would be the first time they'd ever seen the whole camp. The weather was perfect and the stillness was a bromide for our souls...

Hankus Netsky played the accordion at our Opening Ceremony, rivaling the festivities in Beijing, (later joined by Sergio Smilovich on flute) Bob Blackburg

was there to photograph the event for posterity and Uncle Marvin dropped his Phillies baseball cap to signal the start of the race.

Go!!

...and we were off!

21.5 minutes later, Asher Siebert (28) crossed the Finish Line and our beloved Hy Goldman was there to congratulate the winners. Asher was followed by Mike Ankelewicz (31) and Noah Bennett (13 years old). Honorable mention goes to Dahna Berkson, Suse Burth, Sheldon Londner, Lilli Klotz, Ruth Rohn, Aaron Mayer (also 13) Robert Rovner, and Rafi who started late, but managed to catch up with the pack and finish with honor.

Our walkers were LED by 10 year old Sarah Young, who despite falling in her flip-flops, broke the tape for our Shpatshirers... followed by Abbie Rosenblatt and Melissa Kurtz, our annual Loyf Tsunoyf Fundraising Angel! Sh'koyakh to our other walkers, Paul Pascal (who played the Melodica the whole time!!), Richard Kurtz, Eleanor Levine, Shirley Levine, and our

Kovedike Mentshen, Boris Sela (75) and Sylvia Soicher (80!!!) By the way, MOST of our walkers didn't stop at 2.5 K, and continued for the entire 5 Km. Amazing...

All of our participants made a contribution to the KlezKanada Scholarship Fund, and we're already at \$270. (we're still taking donations, so feel free to slip me some cash if you get the urge...!)

Thank you to everyone who participated, and SUPER SPECIAL THANKS go to Yaakov - our camp liaison, Danni - our inimitable chef, and the Camp B'nai Brith staff for ensuring that the warm beverages were flowing to help wake us all up!!

If you missed the race, there's still time to enjoy our beautiful camp by taking your own Loyf or Shpatsir around the grounds. The weather's supposed to be great all weekend, and that sunrise will be there again tomorrow morning...

See you all again in 2009... if not sooner...!!

Kol ha'kavod!!!



Photo: Truda Bloom

# Personal Ads & Announcements

To submit a personal advertisement, accompany it with a \$5 (or more) contribution to the KlezKanada Scholarship fund.

**KlezKanada on Facebook!** Stay in touch all year on Facebook. Search groups for “KlezKanada” and join the “KlezKanada Connection.” Post photos, shmooze, get the news on ongoing KlezKanada events, and stay in touch with other KlezKanadians all year, right on Facebook.

## Daniel Kahn Wins Oscar Wilde Award

Dateline: Thursday, August 21, 2008—A telephone call to KlezKanada’s own Teaching Fellow, Daniel Kahn, brought the news that he has been named the winner of a most prestigious theatre award, The Oscar Wilde Award. In the fall of 2007, The Jewish Ensemble Theatre called Daniel back from Berlin to the United States to co-star in Jon Marans’ “Old Wicked Songs,” a play that was a Pulitzer Prize nominee in the 1990’s. The Oscar Wilde Award is the Detroit area’s acknowledgment of the best in professional theatre. For his outstanding performance, Daniel won Best Duo in a Professional Play in the 2007-2008 Season. In a previous year, Daniel won the Detroit Free Press Award for Best Original Music and Performance in “The Dybbuk.”

Several people have asked for more information about the band *Konsonans Retro* that performed on Wednesday night, continuing to lead a mighty dance set. Members of the band have been busy throughout the week teaching here at KlezKanada. It is a family affair:

**Vasyl Baranovsky (trmpet, brass band):** Vasya is the musical director of the House of Culture in Kodyma, Odessa region. Raised in a small village on the Ukrainian-Moldovian border, he started playing weddings at age four and now leads *Konsonans Retro*, a traditional village brass band that includes his brothers Vitya and Vova, his son Slava, and some other cool folks.

**Vitaly “Vitya” Baranovsky (trombone):** The second Baranovsky brother, Vitya is one of the true virtuosic masters of traditional single note accompaniment, admired by his colleagues and artists like Steve Bernstein. Multi-instrumentalist. Loves fishing, garlic, and strong coffee.

**Volodymyr “Vova” Baranovsky (accordion):** A passionate collector of Moldovan repertoire and a music teacher, the youngest Baranovsky brother plays also electric guitar, piano, alto horn and is the midi expert of the *simkhe* trio he forms with his brothers Vasya and Vitya.

**Vyacheslav “Slava” Baranovsky (baraban):** Vasya’s son perpetuates the family tradition by playing poyk,

## קלעזנייעס KlezNews

Staff include Ari Davidow, Joyce Romoff, Truda Bloom, Richard Kurtz, Elaine Cooper, Reuben J. Cohen. Photographs by Truda Bloom. All contents copyright by their creators, and all rights reserved by the creators.

A PDF copy of this newsletter will be available online after camp, and HTML versions of the stories and art will be placed online, along with additional materials, in a weblog format to permit comments and participation.

Web: [www.klezkanada.org](http://www.klezkanada.org)

E-mail: [shgoldman@sympatico.ca](mailto:shgoldman@sympatico.ca)

This year’s “tag” is “klezkanada08”. If you are placing materials on Flickr, YouTube, etc., please use that tag so that people can find the items.

## Konsonans Retro



Konsonans Retro w/Christian David. Photo: Truda Bloom

and recently even trumpet, leading a secret life as a classical tenor and pop singer in Kiev. Slava loves to sing on big stages, at kitchen tables, and in tour busses.

**Oleksandr “Sasha” Voronyuk (tuba):** Like some other folks in *Konsonans Retro*, Sasha survived the musical training of the Red Army and is now passionately supporting Ukrainian, Moldavian, and Cosmopolitan Jewish bass lines.

**Volodymyr “Vova” Voronyuk (trumpet):** A folk trumpeter and Sasha’s older brother for more than 40 years, Vova also teaches music at Kodyma’s public school. Makes excellent *samohon*, loves tunes, second voices, and a good barbecue.

To get to know the band better, please stop by the boutique and pick up a copy of their CD! There is a review of the CD on the KlezmerShack, [www.klezmershack.com](http://www.klezmershack.com)